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PATENT

W&W File No.: 1417P P 591



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application Of:)
Kok-Hwee Ng, et al.)
Application No.: 09/865,196) Group Art Unit:
Filed: May 24, 2001) Examiner: Unknown
For: A System and Method for Tracking the)
State of a Blood Collection)
in a Blood Collection Facility)

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified Application.

No additional fee is required.

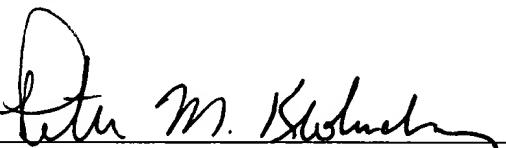
Commissioner for Patents
Application No. 09/865,196

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 for the presentation of extra Claims.
 Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17.

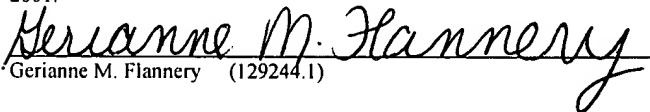
Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Peter M. Klobuchar, Reg. No. 43,772
WALLENSTEIN & WAGNER, LTD.
311 S. Wacker Drive, 53rd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6622
312.554.3300

Date: August 24, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 24, 2001.

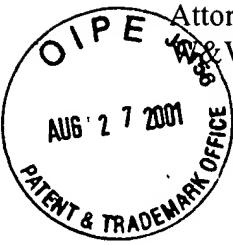

Geriannne M. Flannery (129244.1)

Pre-Amendment #3/A

FreeOK

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. F-5728
W Ref: 1417P P 591



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:)
Kok-Hwee Ng et al.)
Serial No: 09/865,196) Examiner: Unknown
Filed: May 24, 2001) Art Unit:
For: A SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR)
TRACKING THE STATE OF A BLOOD)
COLLECTION IN A BLOOD)
COLLECTION FACILITY)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please delete the noted paragraphs and replace them with paragraphs printed below (marked up copies of the corresponding pages are attached as Attachments A, B, and C).

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 6 at line 2 and ending on page 6 at line 18 with the following paragraph:

The present invention is directed to an apparatus or system for collecting, using, and

At